Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 PER-05 CPR-02 SS-15 NSC-10 A-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /074 W

P 221117Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6907

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: APER, PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATION TO GOB THAT BATJER CHARGE

REF: STATE 165634

- 1. ON AUGUST 22, I CALLED ON SUBEV AND SET FORTH DEPARTMENT'S POSITION AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL STRESSING THAT VIENNA CONVENTION (ARTICLE 19) PROVIDES THAT CHARGE NOTIFICATION CAN BE MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OF SENDING STATE TO FOREIGN MINISTRY OF RECEIVING STATE. READ DEPARTMENT'S NOTETO BULGARIAN EMBASSY AND STATED THAT THIS MEETS REQUIREMENT ACCORDING OUR INTERPRETATION OF VIENNA CONVENTION. STATED THAT WE CONSIDERED BULGARIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND US EMBASSY HERE TO BE NORMAL AND PROPER CHANNELS FOR TRANSMITTING OFFICIAL MESSAGES BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS. ADDED DEPARTMENT UNABLE UNDERSTAND UNUSUAL POSITION BEING TAKEN BY GOB AND EXPECTS THE MATTER BE RESOLVED QUICKLY.
- 2. SUBEV IMPLIED HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT NOTIFIACTION COULD BE BETWEEN SENDING AND RECEIVING MFAS AND TOOK NOTE OF THE TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S NOTE TO BULGARIAN EMBASSY. EXPLAINED THAT OTHER NATIONS SUCH AS NORWAY NOTIFY VIA INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC FACILITIES AS DOES BULGARIA, THEREFORE, MFA PROTOCOL OFFICE ACCEPTS THIS AS NORMAL CHANNEL. BUT AGREED THAT SUCH COMMUNILIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CATIONS COULD ALSO BE HANDLED BY EMBASSIES. WENT TO

GREAT LENGTH TO EXPLAIN THAT GOB IS NOT TRYING TO BE DIFFICULT OR TAKE AN UNUSUAL POSITION AND POINTED TO POUCH REQUEST SIGNATURE EXCEPTIONS AS AN EXAMPLE OF COOPERATION.

- 3. ONLY AFTER I WENT BACK OVER ARGUMENTS, ASKED THAT THE MFA PROTOCOL OFFICE REVIEW VIENNA CONVENTION (ARTICLE 19), AND ASSURED SUBEV THAT DEPARTMENT DOES NOT USE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC FACILITIES FOR OFFICIAL MESSAGES, DID SUBEV PROMISE TO RAISE THE MATTER WITH HIGHER OFFICIALS. HE FURTHER PROMISED TO KEEP ME INFORMED AND ASSURED ME THAT ADDITIONAL EXCEPTIONS FOR SIGNATURE ON POUCH REQUEST WOULD BE FORTHCOMING.
- 4. UNLESS SITUATION DRAGS ON FOR UNBEARABLE PERIOD, I DO NOT INTEND TO REQUEST FURTHER POUCH CLEARANCE EXCEPTIONS. BATJER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC NOTES, SECURITY CLEARANCES, DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTATION

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 AUG 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SOFIA01101

Document Number: 1973SOFIA01101 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: SOFIA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730822/aaaaapzm.tel Line Count: 79

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: STATE 165634

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 06 SEP 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <06-Nov-2001 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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